

DISCLOSURE DIVISION

- ☒ WAIVER REQUEST
☐ ANSWER
☐ RECONSIDERATION REQUEST
☐ UNTIMELY

DATE: 3/26/2021

DOCKET #: 2021-227

Ashley Wimberley, Director
Disclosure Division

FILER INFORMATION

Name: Roxanna F. Foret
Address: 387 Sugarwood Boulevard, Houma, LA 70360
Office/Position: Human Rights Commission
Dates of Service: 2016-2019
Number of Disclosures and/or Amendments Filed with Agency: 5

REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: Tier 2.1 Annual Personal Financial Disclosure covering calendar year 2018
Report ID: PFD20007914
Original Due Date: 5/15/2019
NOD Received: 1/31/2020-Requested Proof of Signature: Roxanna Foret
PFD/Answer Due Date based on NOD: 2/11/2020
PFD/Answer Filed: 7/8/2020

LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$1500
Days late from receipt of NOD: 148
Total days late from initial due date: 420
Late Fee Order Received: 8/14/2020
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 9/3/2020
Waiver Request Received: 8/21/2020

COMMENTS: Roxanna Foret is requesting a waiver for the late filing of her 2018 PFD Statement. Ms. Foret stated this was her first full term serving on the Human Rights Commission and she was unaware of the annual filing requirements. She does recall her first year getting a notification informing her to file, but she was never instructed to submit an annually financial disclosure. She is a Lafourche Parish school teacher and enjoys serving on the commission and fulfilling her duties as a Louisiana citizen. She stated she has nothing financial to hide; and she does not own a business, or have assets, other than her home. Foret stated the month of January was the beginning of a scary time for the world, as it was faced with the uncertainty of a life threatening pandemic. The fear of possible death was on everyone's minds and by the order of the Governor, all schools were closed on March 13, 2020. She left school that day not knowing what the future would be. As a teacher, she did not know if she would be paid or if she would have class again. Her husband had to remain home for several weeks during the stay at home order. With all of this uncertainty due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, she and her family are not in a financial situation to pay \$1500. Ms. Foret stated that she never received the NOD issued by the BOE. She was made aware of her delinquency by another commissions member, during a Zoom Board Meeting. Ms. Forest said she would have filed the PFD had she known about it. She asks the Ethics Board to take into consideration the unprecedented times that she (we) are living in and grant her this waiver request.

*Ms. Foret has been serving since 2016. However, first began filing in 2018. This is her first Failure to File, late fee assessment.

OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

Disclosure Statements:

- Other Outstanding Statements: No
- Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
- Prior Late Fees: No
- Reassessed Late Fees: No

Campaign Finance:

- Outstanding Late Fees: No
- Prior Late Fees: No

August 20, 2020

Louisiana Board of Ethics

PO Box 4368

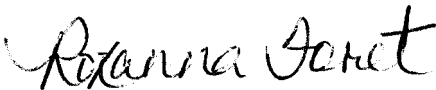
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

RE: Request for waiver of late fee

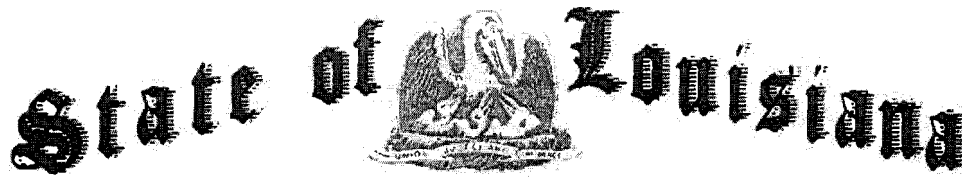
Dear LA Board of Ethics:

I am requesting a waiver of the late fee for not filing Tier 2.1 Annual Personal Financial Disclosure Statement for the calendar year of 2018. I am serving as Commissioner on Human Rights for District #1. This is my first full term as Commissioner on Human Rights. I was not aware that I must file an annual Personal Financial Statement Disclosure. I do remember my first year getting a notification from someone from the government department informing me to file a disclosure. I was not told that it must be done annually. I would have filed a disclosure annually had I known. I don't own any businesses or have any assets other than my home. I am a school teacher in Lafourche Parish. I enjoy serving on this Commission and doing my duty as a Louisiana citizen. I have nothing to hide financially. The month of January was the beginning of a scary time for the world. We were faced with the uncertainty of a life threatening pandemic. The fear of possible death was on everyone's minds. By order of the governor, all schools in Louisiana were closed on March 13, 2020. We left school that day not knowing what the future would be. As a teacher, I did not know if I would be paid or if we would have school again. My husband had to remain home for several weeks during the stay at home order. We were all put on stay at home orders. With all of this uncertainty because of the Coronavirus Pandemic, my family is not in a financial situation to pay \$1500.00. The document that your office sent to me states that I received a notice of delinquency for failing to file a disclosure statement. I never received any notification from your office. I was made aware of having to file a disclosure in a zoom meeting with the Commissioners on Human Rights by another Commissioner. I would have filed the annual report if I had known. I hope that the LA Board of Ethics takes into consideration the unprecedented times that we are living in and grants a waiver to me in regards to filing late the personal annual financial report.

Sincerely,


Roxanna Foret

Commissioner on Human Rights



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 33 JBE 2020

**ADDITIONAL MEASURES FOR COVID-19
STAY AT HOME**

- WHEREAS,** pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, the Governor declared a Public Health emergency in Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020 in response to the threat posed by COVID-19;
- WHEREAS,** on March 11, 2020, in Emergency Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020, the Governor declared that a statewide public health emergency exists in the State of Louisiana because of COVID-19 and expressly empowered the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and the Secretary of the Department of Health and/or the State Health Officer to take all actions authorized under state law;
- WHEREAS,** on March 13, 2020, in Emergency Proclamation Number 27 JBE 2020, the Governor supplemented the measures taken in his declaration of a Public Health Emergency with additional restrictions and suspensions of deadlines and regulations in order to protect the health and safety of the public because of COVID-19;
- WHEREAS,** the extraordinary threat posed by COVID-19 has caused critical shortages of health care equipment, personal protective equipment, and possible shortages in hospital beds, throughout the state;
- WHEREAS,** without additional measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 in the state, health care facilities in parts of the state or even throughout the state are at significant risk of being overwhelmed;
- WHEREAS,** in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and after consultation with the State Health Officer and the Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease, it is clear that additional measures are necessary to protect the health and safety of the public, to mitigate the impact of COVID-19, and to disrupt the spread of the virus;
- WHEREAS,** after declaration of a public health emergency, the Governor is authorized by La. R.S. 29:766(D)(7) to control "ingress and egress to and from a disaster area, the movement of persons within the area, and the occupancy of premises therein";
- WHEREAS,** in addition to the temporary closure of certain businesses ordered because of this emergency in Section 2 of Proclamation Number 30 JBE 2020, certain additional businesses need to be temporarily closed to the public during this emergency;
- WHEREAS,** further, in addition to businesses closed to the public by this order, other businesses throughout the state will need to reduce operations to continue with minimum contact with members of the public and only essential employees, while requiring proper social distancing;
- WHEREAS,** these measures relating to closure of certain businesses and to limit the operations of non-essential businesses are necessary because of the propensity of the COVID-19 virus to spread via personal interactions and because of physical contamination of property due to its ability to attach to surfaces for prolonged periods of time; and

WHEREAS, these measures are necessary to protect the health and safety of the people of Louisiana.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: All state office buildings are closed to the public, effective immediately. However, essential state functions shall continue.

SECTION 2: Section 1 of Proclamation Number 30 JBE 2020 is hereby amended as follows:

In an effort to reduce and limit the spread of COVID-19 in Louisiana, and to preserve the health and safety of all members of the public, all gatherings of 10 people or more shall be postponed or cancelled. This applies only to gatherings in a single space at the same time where individuals will be in close proximity to one another. It does not apply to normal operations at locations like airports, medical facilities, office buildings, factories or manufacturing facilities, or grocery stores. This provision may be extended beyond Monday, April 13, 2020 by further order.

SECTION 3: To preserve the public health and safety, and to ensure the healthcare system is capable of serving all citizens in need, especially those at high risk and vulnerable to COVID-19, all individuals within the state of Louisiana are under a general stay-at-home order and are directed to stay home unless performing an essential activity. An activity is essential if the purpose of the activity is one of the following:

- A. Obtaining food, medicine, and other similar goods necessary for the individual or a family member of the individual.
- B. Obtaining non-elective medical care and treatment and other similar vital services for an individual or a family member of the individual.
- C. Going to and from an individual's workplace to perform a job function necessary to provide goods or services being sought in Subsections (A) and (B) of this Section, or as otherwise deemed essential worker functions. Guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) on what workers are essential is outlined at <https://www.cisa.gov/identifying-critical-infrastructure-during-covid-19>.
- D. Going to and from the home of a family member.
- E. Going to and from an individual's place of worship.
- F. Engaging in outdoor activity, provided individuals maintain a distance of six feet from one another and abide by the 10-person limitation on gathering size established in this proclamation.

SECTION 4: (A) Further, in addition to businesses that are closed to the public pursuant to Proclamation Number 30 JBE 2020, the following nonessential businesses shall be closed to the public and members:

- 1. All places of public amusement, whether indoors or outdoors, including but not limited to, locations with amusement rides, carnivals, amusement parks, water parks, trampoline parks, aquariums, zoos, museums, arcades, fairs, pool halls, children's play centers, playgrounds, theme parks, any theaters, concert and music halls, adult entertainment venues, racetracks, and other similar businesses.
- 2. All personal care and grooming businesses, including but not limited to, barber shops, beauty salons, nail salons, spas, massage parlors, tattoo parlors, and other similar businesses.

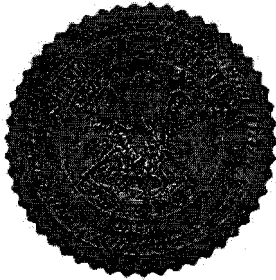
3. All malls, except for stores in a mall that have a direct outdoor entrance and exit that provide essential services and products as provided by CISA guidelines.

(B) Businesses closed to the public pursuant to this provision shall not be prohibited from conducting necessary activities such as payroll, cleaning services, maintenance or upkeep as necessary.

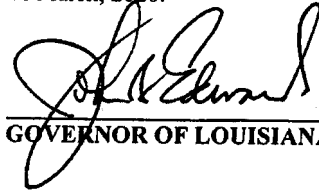
SECTION 5: Any business not covered by the guidance from the CISA discussed in Section 3 and not ordered temporarily closed in Section 4 shall reduce operations to continue with minimum contact with members of the public and essential employees, while requiring proper social distancing. Further, the 10-person limitation on gathering size shall apply to such business operations. Early learning centers and child care facilities adhering to the guidance issued by the Louisiana Department of Education and Office of Public Health may continue to operate.

SECTION 6: The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is directed to ensure compliance with this order, and is empowered to exercise all authorities pursuant to La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, and La. R.S. 29:760, *et seq.*

SECTION 7: Unless otherwise provided in this order, these provisions are effective from 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 23, 2020 to Monday, April 13, 2020, unless terminated sooner.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 22nd day of March, 2020.


GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRETARY OF STATE



To: Lafourche Parish School District Parents and Guardians

Date: March 12, 2020

RE: Lafourche Parish School District Response to Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The health and wellness of our students and staff in the Lafourche Parish School District (LPSD) is the district's highest priority. LPSD remains in close communication with the Louisiana Department of Health and other public health officials to make informed operational decisions. As the Coronavirus situation continues to evolve, we will follow the guidance from the Louisiana Department of Health, Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to implement health recommendations and share updated information with LPSD families as it becomes available.

We are continuing to implement preventative measures to minimize risk to students, employees, and families relating to the spread of the Coronavirus.

Prevention

There is currently no vaccine to prevent the Coronavirus. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventative actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases. We are emphasizing the following important prevention steps for all students and families as recommended by health officials:

- Stay home when you are sick, and keep your children at home when they are sick. As a reminder, students running fever must stay home from school until they are symptom free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Put distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with the inside of your elbow when coughing or sneezing.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.

Student Attendance

Students who provide written documentation from their healthcare provider advising them to refrain from attending school due to illness will be fully accommodated in accordance with Board Policy. As a reminder, students running fever must stay home from school until they are symptom free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine. Student absences will be marked as excused should your child return with an excuse from your healthcare provider. We will modify the perfect attendance incentive from this time forward for this school year. As of March 10, any student that had perfect attendance for this school year shall receive the Perfect Attendance recognition for the 2019-20 school year. If students or staff are sick, they should remain at home to avoid possible infection of others.

School Facilities

Our custodial staff teams conduct deep and thorough cleanings of our schools and offices regularly and have increased the frequency of cleaning of touchpoints (areas that are touched frequently such as doorknobs, water fountains, tops of desks, bathroom sinks, locks to bathroom stalls, etc.)

Field Trips

Given the steadily increasing numbers of reported cases, LPSD is taking a proactive, immediate measures by cancelling all LPSD and/or school-sponsored field trips. All field trips may be re-approved the week prior to the event after consultation with the Louisiana Department of Health.

Athletics, Regional, State and National Competitions

LPSD has not placed restrictions on student participation in athletics, regional, state or national competitions held within Louisiana; however, to ensure that caution is exercised when deemed necessary, the district will continue to work closely with local public health officials. Should athletics, extracurricular, or student competitions be restricted, postponed or cancelled, parents will be immediately notified.

School Closures and Instructional Work

LPSD will not close schools unless advised by the Louisiana Department of Health and other state agencies. In the event of school closures, more information will be forthcoming.



School Closing Update:

- 1) The state is waiving seat-time requirements for classes. This means that we are currently not planning to extend the length of any future school days or the school year.
- 2) We will continue to review the latest guidance from the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) when determining future school dates/schedules. As of now, our previously scheduled Easter break will go on as planned.
- 3) The state testing requirement has not yet been lifted. State testing of grades 3-8 will not occur before April 27th. The ACT is being rescheduled, and high school Leap 2025 testing is currently scheduled to be administered as previously planned.
- 4) We are attempting to not have this closure disrupt the graduation of our seniors and the awarding of credits for our High School students. We are in close communication with the LDOE to ensure we can graduate all of our seniors.
- 5) This situation is one that will likely evolve. We will attempt to keep everyone updated as we gather information and make plans to respond to the state's guidance.

Jarod W. Martin
Superintendent of Schools
Lafourche Parish School District

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